



WESTERN AREA WATER SUPPLY



LOOKING AHEAD 2023-2025

\$46 MILLION

SENATE BILL 2020

QUICK FACTS



WATER USERS
(9% OF ND POPULATION)



COMMUNITIES SERVED



RURAL CONNECTIONS



LEGISLATIVE DISTRICTS
(1, 2, 4B, 23, 26)

CURRENT DWR COST-SHARE

50%-75%

BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

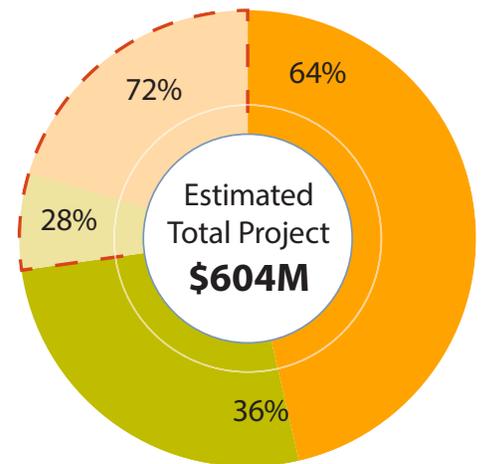
The Western Area Water Supply (WAWS) project goal is to utilize Missouri River water, along with supplemental ground water, to meet the municipal, rural, and industrial water needs of counties in northwest North Dakota. Currently, the system supplies water to 70,000 water users in five counties: Burke, Divide, Mountrail, McKenzie and Williams. The system is expected to expand to 100,000 users by 2040.

HISTORIC FUNDING

Local	\$159M
State	\$281M

FUTURE FUNDING

Foreseeable Funding Needs	\$163.5M
Local	\$46.5M
State	\$117M



LOCAL SPONSOR

In 2011, the North Dakota Legislature created the Western Area Water Supply Authority, (WAWSA) with the intent to develop the WAWS project to treat, store, and distribute water to northwestern North Dakota. As originally planned after the 2011 Legislative Assembly, the financial model for WAWS was to take advantage of the extensive regional growth that was taking place as a result of oil production, and fund the majority of the project by selling excess water to the energy industry. However, fluctuation in oil activity has caused WAWSA to revisit that funding model. The Legislature has responded with legislation that has allowed for the refinancing or restructuring of WAWSA debt. SB 2020 provides \$30 million from the Water Project Stabilization Fund for the purpose of repayment of loans issued by the Bank of North Dakota to WAWSA.



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Water Resources

JUNE 2023